Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 U.S. Application No. 09/863,458

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended)

A shock-absorbing structure of a battery cover, comprising:

a battery cover which protects at least one battery; and

a plurality of shock-absorbing ribs formed on an outer surface of the battery cover[.],

wherein the plurality of shock-absorbing ribs are formed so as to be disposed at positions

respectively corresponding to a plurality of electrodes of the at least one battery.

2. (Currently Amended) [A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 1,] <u>A</u> shock-absorbing structure of a battery cover, comprising:

a battery cover which protects at least one battery; and
a plurality of shock-absorbing ribs formed on an outer surface of the battery cover,
wherein the plurality of ribs are arranged parallel to each other.

3. (Currently Amended) [A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 1,] A shock-absorbing structure of a battery cover, comprising:

a battery cover which protects at least one battery; and
a plurality of shock-absorbing ribs formed on an outer surface of the battery cover,
wherein the plurality of ribs are crossed in a lattice-like manner.

4. (Currently Amended) [A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 1, further comprising:] A shock-absorbing structure of a battery cover, comprising:

a battery cover which protects at least one battery;

a plurality of shock-absorbing ribs formed on an outer surface of the battery cover; at least one fixing member engaged with an electrode of the at least one battery; and at least one projection which is formed on an inner surface of the battery cover and can abut against the at least one fixing member.

- 5. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 4, wherein the at least one projection has an annular shape to form a hollow portion therein, and a distal end portion of the electrode is received in the hollow portion of the at least one projection.
- 6. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 4, wherein a gap between the at least one projection and the at least one fixing member is smaller than a gap between the electrode and the battery cover.
- 7. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 5, wherein a gap between the at least one projection and the at least one fixing member is smaller than a gap between the electrode and the battery cover.

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8. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 4, wherein the plurality of ribs and the at least one projection are disposed substantially symmetrically with respect to a plane of the battery cover.

9. (Currently Amended) [A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 1,] A shock-absorbing structure of a battery cover, comprising:

a battery cover which protects at least one battery; and

a plurality of shock-absorbing ribs formed on an outer surface of the battery cover,

wherein the plurality of ribs are interconnected by at least one bulge portion formed on the battery cover.

10. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 9, wherein the at least one bulge portion and the plurality of ribs project substantially to the same height.

11. (Currently Amended) A shock-absorbing structure of a battery cover, comprising: a battery cover which protects at least one battery;

at least one fixing member engaged with an electrode of the at least one battery; and at least one projection which is formed on an inner surface of the battery cover and can abut against the at least one fixing member[.],

wherein the projection extends towards the at least one fixing member.

- 12. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 11, wherein the at least one projection has an annular shape to form a hollow portion therein, and a distal end portion of the electrode is received in the hollow portion of the at least one projection.
- 13. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 11, wherein a gap between the at least one projection and the at least one fixing member is smaller than a gap between the electrode and the battery cover.
- 14. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 12, wherein a gap between the at least one projection and the at least one fixing member is smaller than a gap between the electrode and the battery cover.
 - 15. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 11, further comprising: a plurality of shock-absorbing ribs formed on an outer surface of the battery cover.
- 16. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 15, wherein the plurality of ribs are arranged parallel to each other.
- 17. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 15, wherein the plurality of ribs are crossed in a lattice-like manner.

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18. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 15, wherein the plurality of ribs and the at least one projection are disposed substantially symmetrically with respect to a plane of the battery cover.

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- 19. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 15, wherein the plurality of ribs are interconnected by at least one bulge portion formed on the battery cover.
- 20. (Original) A shock-absorbing structure according to claim 19, wherein the at least one bulge portion and the plurality of ribs project substantially to the same height.
- 21. (New) The shock-absorbing structure of a battery cover according to claim 5, wherein the annular shape is in the form of a circular rib.
- 22. (New) The shock-absorbing structure of a battery cover according to claim 4, wherein the at least one projection and the plurality of ribs are disposed substantially at the same portion of the battery cover, such that the at least one projection and the plurality of ribs face away from each other.